

San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy

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RMC 03-001

Contact: Enrique Arroyo
RMC Dep. Exec. Director
626-458-4315
Stanley Young
Resources Agency
916-653-5792

San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy Completes California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhoods, and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2002 Grant Cycle

Over \$100 million requested for projects promoting the preservation of watersheds and open space

ALHAMBRA — The San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (RMC) has received over 100 applications requesting California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhoods, and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2002 (Proposition 40) funds for the 2002-2003 fiscal year. The RMC has allocated \$15 million dollars to disburse in General Grants and \$1 million dollars to disburse through a Small Grants Program.

Applications for consideration of funding were released in late January. Eligible applicants, local, state and federal agencies and 501(c)3 non-profit organizations, were encouraged to submit applications for projects that provide low-impact recreation, education, wildlife and habitat restoration, and watershed improvements, prioritizing river-related recreation, greening, aesthetic improvements, and wildlife habitat. The deadline for submittal of the grant applications was March 3, 2003.

Over \$100 million dollars was requested for 100 projects slated to serve many of the 68 cities located within the RMC's jurisdiction. Successful applicants will be notified by June 2003. RMC'S Executive Officer Belinda V. Faustinos anticipates that many of the projects proposed during this grant cycle will aid in bridging the open space deficit that has affected many of the 68 cities the RMC assists. "This is the opportunity we have been anticipating for the last several years -- getting state park funds to our urban areas through partnerships with our local cities and communities," remarked Executive Officer Faustinos.

Legislation creating the RMC was approved in 1999. The RMC is dedicated to the preservation of urban open space and habitat for the enjoyment of, and appreciation by, present and future generations. To fulfill its mission, the RMC works collaboratively with 68 cities, two counties and other local, state and federal agencies as well as non-governmental organizations and citizens.

For additional information regarding the RMC, Grant Guidelines and additional projects located within the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles River watersheds: <http://www.rmc.ca.gov>